

## Signing up for CHIP

*By the Helena IR - 02/08/06*

Families may be eligible if they earn up to 150 percent of the federal “poverty level.” The new income threshold, effective last week, is \$19,800 for a family of two; \$24,900 for a family of three; and \$30,000 for a family of four.

Some of your income also may be exempt from the guidelines, so if you earn slightly more than the poverty level, you still may be eligible for CHIP.

Here’s how to inquire about the program and sign up, if you’re eligible:

- Visit the state’s Web site at [www.chip.mt.gov](http://www.chip.mt.gov), where you can get an application, fill it out and submit it.
- Call the state’s toll-free CHIP hot line at 1-877-543-7669, or, in Helena, at 444-6971.
- Contact Working for Economic Equality and Liberation (WEEL), a private advocacy group, at 1-888-543-2530. WEEL helps people fill out the four-page application.

Application forms should be available at many Indian and tribal health clinics, food banks, Head Start and county health departments.